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April 28, 2008
(Date Signed)

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Applicants: Yohannes Tesfaigzi, et al.	:
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Serial No.: 10/567,876	: Examiner: Jeanine Anne Goldberg
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Filed: February 8, 2006	: Group Art Unit: 1634
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For: METALLOPROTEINASE GENE	:
POLYMORPHISM IN COPD	:
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

This is in response to the Office Action of March 28, 2008, requiring restriction to one of 4 different inventions identified by the Examiner as:

Group I, claims 2-9, drawn to a method of determining susceptibility to COPD using nucleic acid analysis.

Group II, claim 10, drawn to a method of determining susceptibility to COPD using protein analysis.

Group III, claims 11-17, drawn to a method of determining the efficacy of a substrate to inhibit the 279ARG MMP-9 enzyme.

Group IV, claims 18-19, drawn to a method for treating a patient with COPD with a MMP-9 inhibitor.